

What is claimed is:

1. A broadcast type communication data distribution device distributing data in a network, comprising:
5 a broadcast type communication data recognition unit analyzing whether data received from a sender through the network in the form of uni-cast communication is broadcast type communication data; and
a copy/transfer unit relaying data to an addressed
10 receiver, copying the data and transferring the data to one or more receivers other than the addressed receiver or another distribution device through the network, if the data is broadcast type communication data.
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2. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 1, wherein
said broadcast type communication data recognition unit analyzes a source address in the
20 received data and recognizes that the data is broadcast type communication data.
3. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 2, wherein
25 when one of a plurality of segments of broadcast

type communication data is received from the sender, said broadcast type communication data recognition unit further extracts an identifier of broadcast type communication data by analyzing the source address.

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4. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 3, further comprising

a broadcast type communication control table
10 storage unit storing an address of each receiver for which the data should be copied and transferred, and each data transfer available/unavailable flag addressed to the receiver, in relation to the identifier of the broadcast type communication data.

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5. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 4, wherein

said broadcast type communication data recognition unit further extracts control information
20 about the relay and copy/transfer of the received data based on the analysis of the source address.

6. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 5, wherein

25 when said broadcast type communication data

recognition unit extracts information indicating the addition of a receiver, which is control information, said broadcast communication control table storage unit adds the destination address of the data as a receiver
5 address in relation to the identifier of the received data.

7. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 5, wherein
10 when said broadcast type communication data recognition unit extracts information indicating the deletion of a receiver, which is control information, said broadcast communication control table storage unit deletes an entry having the destination address of the
15 data as a receiver address, in relation to the identifier of the received data.

8. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 5, wherein
20 when said broadcast type communication data recognition unit extracts information indicating the deletion of all receivers of broadcast type communication data corresponding to the identifier, which is control information, said broadcast
25 communication control table storage unit deletes all

entries having the identifier in its entry, in relation to the identifier of the received data.

9. The broadcast type communication data
5 distribution device according to claim 5, wherein
when said broadcast type communication data recognition unit extracts information indicating the stoppage of data distribution to a receiver, which is control information, said broadcast communication
10 control table storage unit sets the data transfer available/unavailable flag of a receiver address that matches the destination address of the received data, to "transfer unavailable".

15 10. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 5, wherein
when said broadcast type communication data recognition unit extracts information indicating the re-start of data distribution to a receiver, which is
20 control information, said broadcast communication control table storage unit sets the data transfer available/unavailable flag of a receiver address that matches the destination address of the received data, to "transfer available".

11. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 5, wherein
said copy/transfer unit relays or
copies/transfers all segments of data received from the
5 sender, including the control information extracted by
the broadcast type communication data recognition unit.

12. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 5, wherein
10 said copy/transfer unit converts the control
information extracted by said broadcast type
communication data recognition unit into the scrambled
information received from the sender and relays or
copies/transfers the converted data.

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13. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 5, wherein
when a target for which data is relayed or
copied/transferred is a receiver of the data, said
20 copy/transfer unit converts the control information
extracted by said broadcast type communication data
recognition unit into the scrambled information
received from the sender and relays or copies/transfers
the converted data.

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14. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 5, wherein the data received from the sender includes no substantial data to be finally provided for a receiver.

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15. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 2, wherein

said broadcast type communication data recognition unit analyzes a source address, which is a private address of a MAC address in an Ethernet, and recognizes data in a layer 2 network.

16. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 2, wherein said broadcast type communication data recognition unit analyzes a source address, which is an Internet protocol address, and recognizes data in a layer 3 network.

17. The broadcast type communication data distribution device according to claim 2, wherein said broadcast type communication data recognition unit analyzes a source address, which is a port number of a user data protocol or a transmission control protocol, and recognizes data in a layer 4

network.

18. A broadcast type communication system conducting broadcast type communications, comprising:

5 a transmitter device transmitting broadcast type communication data to a receiver through a network in the form of uni-cast communication; and

a distribution device provided between a sender and a plurality of receivers, that relays data received
10 from a sender through a network to an addressed receiver and also copies/transfers the data to one or more receivers other than the address receiver, if the data is broadcast type communication data.

15 19. The broadcast type communication system according to claim 18, wherein

said transmitter device comprises a source address storage unit storing a network address corresponding to each of a plurality of segments of
20 broadcast type communication data, and

when transmitting one of the plurality of segments of broadcast type communication data, said transmitter device uses a network address corresponding to the data to be transmitted as a source address.

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20. The broadcast type communication system according to claim 19, wherein

the source address further corresponds to control information about the relay and copy/transfer of the broadcast type communication data in said distribution device.

21. A broadcast type communication data distribution device distributing data in a network, comprising:

10 broadcast type communication data recognition means for analyzing whether data received from a sender through the network in the form of uni-cast communication is broadcast type communication data; and
copy/transfer means for relaying data to an
15 addressed receiver, copying the data and transferring the data to one or more receivers other than the addressed receiver or another distribution device through the network, if the data is broadcast type communication data.

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